

Meeting Purpose

- Update Christine regarding EPA Assistance and TMDL Resubmit Progress
- (b) (5)

Project Background

Ecology submitted the final Phase 1 Deschutes TMDL to EPA for approval on December 17, 2015. The submitted TMDL package included a request that EPA approve allocations for 71 (actually 73) Water Quality Limited Segments (WQLSs) impaired by five pollutants (temperature, dissolved oxygen [DO], pH, fecal coliform, and fine sediment). (b) (5)

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Update

- EPA and Ecology are collaboratively developing the Deschutes TMDL resubmit letter
- EPA has calculated bacteria TMDLs for 12 watersheds to assist Ecology
- (b) (5)

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Issues

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REGION 10 OWW TOPIC BRIEFING – Deschutes River TMDL (WA)

Draft resubmit letter provided by Ecology:

- ✓ is silent regarding the issue of the 2017 submittal replacing the 2015 submittal
 - ✓ indicates that remaining impairments in the Deschutes may be addressed sometime after ~2035 pending water quality trend assessment
- EPA HQ has recently (5/24/2017) voiced a request to review all TMDL approval actions. Administrative complexities of the Deschutes TMDL could result in HQ requesting an alternative resolution pathway that may extend decision timelines.

Key Questions and Decisions

- (b) (5) [REDACTED]

Process Recommendations to Key Questions

Ecology has interest in setting a decision schedule. To accommodate this request, the WU and ORC suggest the following timeline:

- (b) (5) [REDACTED]

Options for Moving Forward

40 CFR 130.7(d)(2): “*The Regional Administrator shall either approve or disapprove such listing and loadings not later than 30 days after the date of submission....*”

- (b) (5) [REDACTED]

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